

Maricopa County Community Services Commission

Maricopa County Human Services Department

234 N. Central, 3rd Floor Conference Room

Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Monday, May 23, 2005

6:00 P.M.

Minutes

Members Present:

Vice Chair - Councilman Fred Hull, Town of Gila Bend	Walter Gray, St. Vincent de Paul
Councilman Larry Morrison, Town of Gilbert	*Louise Moskowitz, APS
Councilman Steven E. Frate, City of Glendale	Gloria de Tevis, Valley of the Sun United Way
Councilwoman Margarita Cota, Town of Guadalupe	Marty Sonnenberg, Salt River Project
Terri Cruz, Chicanos por la Causa	Sarah Bravo-Palma, Eastside Low-income Representative
Robert Morehouse, Senior Citizens Council Maricopa County	* Arrived after Roll Call

Members Absent:

Councilman Hut Hutson, City of Tempe	Excused
Barbara Webster, Southwest Low-Income Rep.	Excused
Councilwoman Kathie Farr, City of Tolleson	Excused
Mark Bratman, The Salvation Army	Unexcused
Joe Blanton, Southwest Low-Income Representative	Unexcused

Presenters/Staff/Guests Present:

Staff:

Margarita Leyvas, Community Services Division
Mindy Wakefield, Community Services Division
Virginia Sturgill, Community Services Division
Rachel Schultz MCHSD

Presenter:

Julie Bank

Guests

Racel Aleman, Chandler CAP
Darlene Zavala
Maria Alvarez

1. OPENING

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| A. Call to Order | The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by the Vice Chair, Councilman Fred Hull. |
| B. Roll Call/
Introductions | Virginia Sturgill called roll. Nine of sixteen seated members were present; a quorum was established. |
| C. Excused Absence(s) | The following members were absent and asked to be excused: Councilwoman Farr, Barbara Webster, Councilman Hutson. Councilman Frate made a motion to excuse the absences. The motion was seconded by Robert Morehouse. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried. |
| D. Opening Prayer | Councilman Frate led the prayer |

E. Pledge of Allegiance Gloria De Tevis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

F. Approval of Minutes Robert Morehouse made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 25th meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frate. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

2. Business

A. Resignation of Raymond Shuey

Vice Chairman Hull reported that Councilman Raymond Shuey had resigned from the Avondale City Council, thereby resigning his position on the Maricopa County Community Services Commission.

Mr. Shuey accepted a new position of Finance Director and Chief Financial Officer for the City of Glendale. Via a news release, Mr. Shuey stated, "I believe I cannot fairly serve the needs of each community while occupying key senior public policy positions in both cities. In my view, it is in the best interests of the Cities of Avondale and Glendale that I resign my position with Avondale at this time."

Councilman Frate made a motion to accept the resignation of Raymond Shuey on the Maricopa County Community Services Commission. Councilman Larry Morrison seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

B. Directors Report

Marge Leyvas reported:

- Proposition 200 has had a major impact on the number of applications for URRD. A comparison was done Jan-March 2004 vs. Jan-March 2005. There has been a 67-70% decrease in utilization of funds and the number of households assisted. Marge stated there are various reasons for the decrease in applications. CAP staff report clients may not be able to provide "original birth certificates or certified copy" especially elderly clients. Since December 2004, DES has issued 4 policy clarifications including Acceptable Documents for proof of citizenship or legal status. CAP staff assist clients in obtaining documents but this process can take up to 6 weeks or longer. Marge reported that Social Security Administration documents are not acceptable verification of proof of citizenship or legal status. Marge stated that some CAP staff, specifically those that work for municipalities, are leery of taking URRD applications, because if they accept documents as proof of citizenship or legal status that later are determined to be false documents, the staff could be subject to fines and penalties. Marge also reported that because of the inability to use URRD funds, other funding is being utilized to assist with utility deposits. The inability to use these funds also affects the Weatherization programs. Marge stated that other CAAs in the State report the same types of problems.

Discussion followed regarding Prop 200 and the possibility of sending a letter to DES asking them to allow Social Security documents as proof of citizenship and/or legal status. Marge stated that she would research who at DES is responsible for setting policy on acceptable documents. Additional discussion regarding the negative impact on requests for other services, such as food boxes, due to misunderstanding of Prop 200.

- The new Database will be available in August 05.
- CAP Staff Annual Policy & Eligibility Training will be in June.
- CAP Facts from Nation Community Action Foundation report that Weatherization funding for next fiscal year looks good. LIHEAP may have an increase. However the battle over CSBG is not over.
- Staff attended Results Oriented Management Accountability (ROMA) training. ROMA is a management tool used by all CSBG recipients to report outcomes. It is important to show the value and worth of CSBG and to show how much additional funding is leveraged due to the CSBG dollars. The ROMA performance measures will be incorporated into CAP performance.
- CSD is researching the possibility of having a Family Development Training, and partnering with ACAA to bring Beverly Ford to AZ to provide this intensive 2 day training.
- Marge provided a timeline of activities and progress involving the DES contract for FY06. Marge reported that the Request for Application (RFA) was not released until April 1. A pre-application conference was held on April 12th, and the RFA response was due April 28th. CSD submitted their response on April 26th. On April 27th DES sent out an e-mail with a notice of an amendment to the RFA and an extension of the submittal to May 3rd. CSD submitted the signed amendment on April 28th. On May 11th DES announced that all the RFA responses needed clarifications and contracts would not be ready until the clarifications were reviewed. Marge reported that she has repeatedly requested that DES process the contract quickly, due to Maricopa County's internal contracting process. Marge reported that, last year, DES reorganized the CSA unit that has resulted in the addition of layers to the DES contract review process.

Marge expressed her concern that the FY06 contract would not be in place by June 30th. The results of not having a contract in place would be that some CAP offices would not be open on July 1st and those that could be open would not have access to the direct service dollars. Marge stated that if the DES contract is not in place by June 30th, MCHSD would be contacting all city/town mayors and counsels and the MC Board of Supervisors to explain why the CAP offices were closed or why they were not able to provide assistance. Marge reported that residents usually call the city/town offices to voice complaints. Marge stressed that the problem with DES not issuing contracts in a timely manner is affecting the whole state. Domestic Violence, Transportation, Homeless Shelters and the Food Banks are having the same problems.

- In addition, Marge reported that DES had not issued the FY2005 mid-year amendment in a timely manner. This is usually issued in January and fully executed by March; but not this year. CSD submitted the mid-year amendment to DES in February and it has still not been received to date.
- Marge stated that Cynthia Zwick, Ex. Director of ACAA, has

shared that the other CAA's in the state are experiencing similar problems with DES. Ms. Zwick has contacted the governor's office, provided information on the potential problem and asked the governor's office to facilitate a meeting of DES director Mr. Berns and the state CAA directors.

Discussion followed regarding extending an invitation to DES Director Berns to attend the next commission meeting to address the contracting issues and the impact of not having contracts in place for July 1st. Staff will draft a letter asking him to attend the commission meeting.

- www.az211.gov should go live 2nd week in June.

C. Presentation on Maricopa County Animal Care & Control

Julie Bank provided information on programs offered through Maricopa County Animal Care and Control. Julie stated MCAC&C's "Goal is to strengthen the family by providing assistance and education regarding the community pets in an effort to keep them out of our buildings and to decrease euthanasia" Julie reported that they provide adoption services, spay and neuter services such as the "Big Fix", free pet food services and vaccination clinics with low cost vaccines. Julie reported that 22,000 pets were adopted last year.

Julie stated that MCAC&C has a new program for at-risk teens called TLC (Teaching Love and Compassion). Julie stated that the program partners at-risk teen with at-risk pets. The teens are taught how to care for the animals. Julie stated that all of MCAC&C public programs are solely funded by donations and they have volunteer opportunities for individuals that are interested.

Julie distributed information and reported that additional information was available on the website www.pets.maricopa.gov. Julie encouraged everyone to consider having The **Scratch & Sniff Petmobile** at their next community event. The **Scratch & Sniff Petmobile** is a self-contained vehicle that brings friendly adoptable dogs and cats to community events. This bus will visit churches, synagogues, ballparks, businesses, street fairs, schools ... wherever the community congregates ... to conduct adoptions, distribute educational materials, and offer vaccination and licensing clinics. For more information contact Julie at 602-506-3471 or jbank@mail.maricopa.gov.

D. Review and Approve appointment of Resource Assessment Committee members

The following commission members have agreed to serve on the Resource Assessment committee: Marty Sonnenberg, Louise Moskowitz and Terri Cruz. Robert Morehouse had agreed to serve on the committee but has stepped down due to his election as Speaker of the Arizona Silver Haired Legislature. Fred Bates of the Association of Arizona Food Banks and Meggan Medina of Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness have also agreed to serve on this committee.

Councilman Frate made a motion to accept the appointment of the above mentioned individuals to serve on the committee. Robert Morehouse seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

3. Closing

A. Board Remarks/Announcements

- Margarita Cota announced she did not retain her seat on the Town Council for Guadalupe. As a result, she may not serve on the

- Maricopa County Community Services Commission.
- Gloria de Tevis distributed information from Valley of the Sun United Way.
- Councilman Hull requested an item, the election of a Vice-Chair, be added to the next meeting agenda.

B. Call to the Public

None

C. Adjournment

Robert Morehouse made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Marty Sonnenberg. Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Next meeting: Monday, June 27 at 6:00 PM